



The Oil World.

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Lee County Remains Busiest Spot in Kentucky; Producers Will Have to Speed up to Last Notch

Oil Supply Above Ground Is Good for Only Six Months

WASHINGTON, May 24.—The oil industry of the country has met the demands made upon it for the purposes of war in admirable fashion. It has even done more. It has enabled domestic consumers depending upon oil for fuel or lubricating purposes to continue on their way practically as heretofore. This is the unqualified opinion of the excellent work done by the industry in the past year voiced by officials of the government, who have to do with the industry and its products.

Looking to the future, however, this question is uppermost in the minds of men charged with the responsibility for the conduct of the war: How long can the oil industry continue to meet the ever-increasing demands for their products for war purposes, and at the same time take care of the needs of private industry and other domestic consumers, including automobile owners?

The perplexity existing in official circles on this point is reflected by M. L. Requa, director of the oil division of the United States Fuel Administration, who says:

"There is oil enough above ground today to supply all purposes for the next six months."

This statement is echoed by A. C. Bedford, chairman of the co-operative committee on oil of the Council of Defense. It is obvious that the inference to be drawn from the statement of these two authorities is that upon the efforts put forth by the oil industry during this period of six months to continue and increase the supply of oil, will depend the future supply available for domestic consumption other than for war-making purposes.

It is to assist oil producers and oil consumers of all kinds, and for no other purpose, that the oil division of the United States Fuel Administration has been created, and Mr. Requa placed at the head of it. The authority for the creation of this bureau was contained in the Lever bill, which carried with it authority for the creation of the fuel administration itself. The recent organization in the division under Mr. Requa is, therefore, only a natural step in the evolution of the machinery that the government is called upon to operate for the purpose of winning the war. The whole design and policy of the new division, contrary to recent unfounded rumors which had more or less currency, is one of helpfulness to the oil industry and of absolute non-interference with it, so far as interference can be avoided in the interests of the national welfare. The views of Mr. Requa as to the purpose of his office are clearly defined in the statement issued by him.

Up to the Producer.

While the President's proclamation officially announces a licensing system for the fuel-oil industry, and places Mr. Requa in a position of control similar to that enjoyed by Mr. Garfield over coal production, it is plain that the future policy of the oil division rests in no small degree on the future conduct of the oil industry by the oil producers themselves, with the helpful co-operation of Mr. Requa and his federal machine. As pointed out in his statement, it is his purpose to help the oil industry do those things of mutual benefit which it cannot now do except under the Lever bill, and at the same time care for the interests of all classes of consumers named in the priority order to receive fuel oil.

The disturbing reports circulated through the industry as to the purposes and policies of the oil division have never had any real foundation in fact. Consultation with members of the oil co-operative committee of the Council of National Defense, to whom, prior to the organization of the oil division of the fuel administration, the government has looked for oil since the outbreak of the war, reveals the utmost confidence in Mr. Requa and an intense desire and purpose to co-operate with him in every way.

Among the first official acts of Mr. Requa, who is himself an oil producer of experience and broad vision, was to confer in round table fashion with the men who have conducted the government's oil business in a volunteer capacity up to the time of his taking office. While Mr. Requa made it plain that he had been appointed to formulate policies and give orders with the idea of serving the national welfare, it was also his intention to rely upon the oil producers themselves to run their business in their own way, so long as they continue in a patriotic way, to serve the interests of the government at all times.

Mr. Requa has been called upon to supervise the oil industry on the part of the government at a period which offers an opportunity for the full play of the constructive policy which he has announced he desires to pursue. Shortly after this government entered the war a survey of the probable oil production for the calendar year 1917 resulted in an official estimate that the aggregate production would fall short of 300,000,000 barrels.

How well the industry as a whole rose to the national emergency and endeavored to meet the increasing demand for oil and its products can be best understood from the actual estimated production during 1917 recently put out by the Geological Survey, which shows a total of 341,800,000 barrels for 1917, over 300,767,158 barrels for 1916.

BANQUET OF KENTUCKY OIL MEN'S ASSOCIATION HERE TONIGHT PROMISES TO BE ONE OF THE BIGGEST AFFAIRS OF SEASON; 250 WILL ATTEND

Elaborate preparations for the banquet of the Kentucky Oil Men's Association, which will be given in the ball room of the Phoenix Hotel, this evening at 7:30, were practically completed last night. In view of the fact that the affair is given in honor of two members of the fraternity, Dean Eggert and James H. Dugan, who will leave soon to join the colors, the toasts will be along patriotic lines.

The following program for the affair was given out last night by Samuel E. Bell, secretary of the association:

Toasts.

John E. Garner	A Duster
Hon. W. P. Kimball	What I Think I Know
W. O. Davis	Learning the Lingo
Rev. J. W. Porter	A Gasser
Desta Breckinridge	Oil on Troubled Waters
John M. Stevenson	The Recruit

Musical Program.

Star-Spangled Banner.

Robbers March	Norton
Chin-Chin-Chow	Gottler
I Hate to Lose You	Hubbell
Melody Land	Sanderson
God Be With Our Boys Tonight	Hirsch
The Tickle Toe	Vandersloot
Gen. Pershing March	Grant
Whenever I Think of You	Minstrels
Finale	

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Menu.

Grape Fruit Cocktail with Maraschino

California Ripe Olives

Radishes

Fried Chicken, Country Style

Old Kentucky Ham

New Potatoes

Green Asparagus

Hollandaise

Whole Peeled Tomato

Brick Ice Cream

Assorted Cakes

Demi Tasse

HOFFMAN STOCK WILL ADVANCE

The Hoffman Oil Company of Kentucky, of Lexington, has announced that drilling operations in Fentress county, Tennessee, and in Cumberland and Monroe counties, Kentucky, will be started as soon as equipment can be moved onto the ground.

This company recently purchased the Jane Thomas tract in the Ross Creek section of Lee County, for a consideration of \$30,000 cash. A drilling rig is being transported to this lease, and it is probable that the contractors will spud in this week.

In view of the added new work on the company's property, and the purchase of the Ross creek lease, C. S. Woods, local agent of the company, has announced that a thirty-three and one-third per cent. increase in the market value of the stock will be made on June 20.

HATCHER GIVES DINNER PARTY.

A dinner party given by B. D. Hatcher, sales manager of the Hoffman Oil Company of Kentucky, at the Phoenix Hotel, Monday evening proved very enjoyable. Practically all of the sales force of the company was present and each made a short talk. The following were present:

B. D. Hatcher, Sales Manager; L. Hill, Superintendent Production Department; E. P. Hatch, Auditor. Salesmen: H. B. Maupin, J. M. Beavers, M. E. Pruitt, E. M. Edwards, W. J. Kearney, J. R. Wood, H. H. Blair, F. V. LaGrave, R. M. Wallingford, A. W. Clarke, H. I. Mossbarger, Wm. W. Robertson, Col. Ward Douglas, H. W. Kier, M. F. Sherfesse; Guy Bell, Editor Oil World; W. A. Beatty, Advertising Manager, Lexington Herald.

SINCLAIR GULF CORPORATION REPORTS NET INCOME OF \$1,093,277, REPRESENTING \$1.50 PER SHARE

The first annual report of the Sinclair Gulf Corporation, affiliated with the Sinclair Oil and Refinery Corporation, shows a net income of \$1,093,288 and sets the earnings equal to \$1.50 a share on the 999,567 shares outstanding. It was incorporated January 9, 1917.

The net earnings of the four subsidiary companies for various periods of 1917, according to the report, amounted to \$4,710,477. The balance sheet shows \$2,260,351 cash on hand.

Week's Reports Show Usual Number of Big Producers

Lee county continues to hold the name of "the busiest spot in Kentucky," the past week, having seen more than the usual number of good producers drilled in.

On a section of the D. B. Pendergrass farm Chiles, Chiles and Miller got a 100-barrel producer at No. 2.

No. 1 on a section of the E. S. Moore farm, operated by C. E. Dickson and others, which will make 30 barrels.

L. G. Neely got a 20-barrel producer at No. 3 on the J. D. Smythe farm.

Drilling operations reported from Lee include No. 2 on the Diana Day farm, operated by the Tom Corwin Oil Company.

On the Bob Day farm, Jesse T. Hare and others are at work at No. 2. No. 1 showed for 22 barrels on a pumping test.

The Cumberland Producing and Refining Company has a fishing job at No. 2 Williams near Beattyville.

Williams, Tomlinson and others are constructing a rig at No. 1 on the Hermonius farm, at the head of Bald Rock.

The Bankers Oil Company is due in with No. 1 Joel Hubbard.

The Pan-American Oil Company is drilling at 300 feet at No. 4 Pendergrass. The same company is due in with No. 2 Dave Gilbert.

The Ohio Oil Company has spudded in at a location on the J. P. Lowe farm, on Billy's Fork, ahead of production. The same company will also drill on the Mary Sample tract in the same vicinity, southwest of Radical.

On Hell creek, Ed Vietch and others got a fair well on the Sillie Davis property. Estimates values the well at 25 barrels or better.

On Big Sinking creek, L. V. Watson, drilling at No. 1 Weller's, has a producer rated at 40 barrels.

The Cumberland Petroleum Company got a 75-barrel producer at No. 3, L. S. Sparks.

Sleightmaker, Reed and Curran are preparing to drill on the Rhodes Hall farm, east of Ross creek.

The Irvine Development Company are moving machinery to drill No. 1 Green Adams.

On a section of the Moss St. John farm, the Cumberland Petroleum and Refining Company got a well credited with 100 barrels or better, at their second on the farm. No. 1 is making an equally good showing. Pipe line connections to this section are being rapidly pushed, and the production from this district will be taken care of, it is understood, within the next ten days.

The Carter Oil Company is at work at No. 7 Sullivan and McLean.

The Eastern Gulf Oil Company have located No. 4 Eph Angel.

The Local Oil and Gas Company are moving a rig to No. 3 Moss St. John.

The Quaker Oil Company is spudding in at No. 4 George Booth.

Estill County.

In Estill county, the Tennessee-Kentucky Oil Company's No. 1 Joel Frazier is rated at 20 barrels. Work of spudding in at a second location has been started.

The Tidal Oil Company got 10-barrel producers at Nos. 18 and 19 Williams et al. in the Ravenna district.

Pague and others scored a duster at No. 3 Cox heirs, near Wagersville.

Near the Lee-Estill line, Brode, Reis and Holden are at work on No. 11 T. Williams. No. 1 was dry.

On the J. F. Harris farm, in Ross Creek section, the Bourbon Oil and Development Company have resumed drilling at No. 2, after a delay incident to a broken machine. The same company is moving a rig to No. 2 W. H. Rader, and is drilling at 600 feet on the J. G. Rogers farm.

H. L. Williams et al. is drilling Nos. 26, 27 and 28 Thomas Tipton. The United Oil Company has spudded in at No. 23 W. L. McReyn.

J. E. Carnihan is at work at No. 2 Joe C. Stemp.

The Stanton Oil Company's No. 6 Perry Hall is credited with 20 barrels.

The Station Camp Oil Company is constructing three large storage tanks on their Ross creek property, where three producing wells are located.

Powell County.

In Powell county, Pilot district, the Cumberland Petroleum Company, drilling at No. 3 Weed Townsend, have a 25-barrel well.

The Petroleum Exploration Company got 6 and 12 barrel producers at Nos. 33 and 34 Miller-Prewitt-Goff.

Near Stanton, the Liberty Oil, Gas and Manufacturing Company are preparing to drill No. 4 John Williams. Upon the completion of the fourth well, this company plans to pump its wells. The estimated production of the three wells already completed is 40 barrels, or better.

The Tennessee-Kentucky Oil Company is due in with No. 1 T. A. Hall.

In the Woodward's Fork district, the Ohio Oil Company, drilling at No. 5 John Brandenburg got one rated at 5 barrels.

On the Charles Means farm, Neely and Clover got a 5-barrel well at No. 2.

The Federal Oil Company scored a duster at No. 15 Elijah Bishop.

CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT, COLUMN TWO

OIL AND GAS NEWS CONDENSED

Ten per cent. wage increase has been granted to employes by the Galena-Signal Oil Company, of Franklin, Pa., the new schedule having become effective on May 1.

Recent rains in Oklahoma and Texas have been of great advantage to oil producers. Usually the latter have a water problem in both States during the summer months.

Ranger, Texas, is to have an oil exchange in which members are to have booths. They will sell stocks, leases, oil properties of all kinds and, in a general way, will help to keep up the excitement.

In Wyoming, the Carter Oil Company plans extensive field operations for the coming summer. In the Shoshone district it has taken up four big tracts, on the reservation, and will develop them.

Chicago advises state that the Peoples Gas Light & Coke Company has discovered a process for making oil, indispensable in the manufacture of high explosives, from low-grade bituminous coal.

At a banquet of the Oil Trades Association in New York City, recently, Harry Lauder, the comedian, was a guest and he spoke of the war and Liberty bonds. Everybody present subscribed.

At Chicago, the offices of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana have been removed from the Edison building to the Karpen building. The latter structure was purchased by the company a year ago.

Sonator Lane predicts that shops, railroads and war industries will be unable to obtain sufficient quantities of fuel oil within sixty days, if the leasing bill is not enacted and made operative, meanwhile.

Buffalo, N. Y., has another gas contest. This time it is the artificial gas that worries the town. Higher rates are asked, the increase being from \$1 to \$1.45 per 1,000 cubic feet. The natural gas fight is still unfinished.

McDowell Oil Company, formed to develop New Mexico territory, is well financed and is expected to do considerable drilling during the coming summer. Big banking interests are among those that own stock.

Much interest is attached to a test well in Chino Valley, Arizona, which is being drilled by the United Chino Oil & Refining Company. The hole has passed through 100 feet of red shale, which is said to be oil-bearing.

According to an Augusta exchange, J. F. Hamilton, of Towanda, Kan., has sued the Empire Gas & Fuel Company for \$1,210,000 damages for alleged failure to properly develop his oil tract, a lease of which is held by the company.

In reply to a question, the Chicago Tribune prints the following: "The Liberty Oil and Gas Company is capitalized at \$1,500,000. The promoters are offering it at \$1 a share. In Denver, where such stocks are traded in, the shares are quoted at 7 cents asked, no bid price."

Ground will soon be broken at Walters, Okla., for a refinery. The plans provide for a 5,000-barrel capacity. A contract has been closed for twenty acres of land in which the plant is to be located. The Blue Ribbon Oil & Refining Company is back of the enterprise.

In the southern part of Carter county and the northern part of Love county, Oklahoma, there are to be thorough tests, in the near future, to show whether or not oil is obtainable in those districts. Geologists are convinced that the prospects are good in both counties.

Efforts are being made to develop an oil field in the vicinity of Holbrook, Navajo county, Arizona. Geologists have favorably reported on the prospects and some acreage has been leased. The Holbrook News says that test wells are to be drilled there in the near future.

The Coast Valley, south of Cape Mendocino, in California, oil has been found as a possible local product since 1895, according to the San Francisco Bulletin. Now it is to be developed in a vigorous fashion. Dr. E. Heymans has an interested Eastern capital in the development work.

Near Boulder, Colo., the Apex Refining & Drilling Company has bought a refinery having a capacity of 500 barrels daily. Included in the deal are eleven acres of land and a refining plant which is to be enlarged. The company has its location in the Big Hollow field, near Laramie, Wyo.

Suit has been brought in the United States Court at Muskogee, Okla., by E. M. R. Lucas against the Prairie Oil & Gas Company, asking for an accounting of oil taken from the Lucas allotment in Creek county. The lease has been assigned to the Prairie and the plaintiffs are not pleased with the results.

Statistics are being collected by Government representatives in the Mid-Continent to ascertain the costs of producing petroleum. The report on the subject is to be returned to Washington headquarters by May 10. The work is being pushed along in a hurry and oil men are wondering what it all means.

Announcement is made by the Mascot Oil & Refining Company, of Utah, that a field has been closed whereby it comes into possession of additional holdings in the Fossil (Wyo.) field on which two wells have been drilled. The new acreage consists of 500 acres, formerly held by the Lincoln-Wyoming Oil Company.

Observations of the temperature in the deep well near Clarksburg, W. Va., show 152 degrees at 7,000 feet. The heat increases one degree for every 51 feet of depth. The crust of the earth here is thick and cool comparatively. In fact, heat is less in the earth there than it would be in localities where the crust is different.

Stella Manuel, a negress, whose name has frequently been mentioned in Oklahoma newspapers owing to her oil land in the Cushing field and the litigation that has involved it, died at Muskogee on June 30, a victim of tuberculosis. She was 48 years old. Two years ago the girl was married to a negro named Isaac Mason.

L. E. Landon, a chemist while trying a new method of making gasoline at a Coffeyville, Kan., refinery last week, was the victim of an explosion. The fluid, it was said, became gaseous under high pressure and flames were ignited. In the explosion Mr. Landon was very painfully burned about the face, head and hands. He was taken to the Coffeyville hospital for treatment.

Suit has been started in the United States District Court here by Mary B. Mack against the Independent Torpedo Company, on account of the death of W. C. Black, her husband, in an explosion that occurred on a lease near Drumright, Okla., in 1916. The man was a lease superintendent and was assisting in placing the shot when the fatality occurred. Damages are placed at \$25,000.

Ohio Oil Company has decided to make a thorough test of the Copper Dome field, 45 miles northwest of Laramie, Wyo., on which it brought in a well several months ago at a depth of 2,700 feet with a production of apparently 25 barrels. It is believed that this well is on the edge of the structure and on that theory several other wells will be drilled in the hope that a larger field can be found.

Midway Consolidated, Limited, whose registered office is in England, is permitted to issue shares of its capital stock to Col. Frank Kayser and Capt. Robert H. Behrend. This company is operating in the Midway oil field in California, and the permit by Commissioner Carnahan in that State ratifies the action

of the company in issuing stock to the two persons named, who are officers in the English army.

At Augusta, Kan., last week, the Empire Gas & Fuel Company sustained a fire loss of \$50,000 when the company's garage was destroyed. Thirty-five of the company's cars, Fords chiefly, were burned, together with four privately owned cars. The fire is believed to have been caused by a gas stove in the building. The garage was of metal and wood construction and was partly covered by insurance.

Fort Worth advises state that the Oklahoma Producing & Refining Corporation of America, which has a capital stock of \$25,000,000, has been granted a permit to do business in Texas. The company is incorporated under the laws of Maryland. It will make its Texas headquarters at Fort Worth and has already opened offices there. The company plans to enter the Texas oil-producing industry on a large scale.

Instructions have been received by operating departments of railroads in Southern California from Director-General McAdoo of the Railroad Administration, directing that oil holdings or properties of every description in which the railroads are directly or indirectly interested shall be reported. The demand is for information concerning lands, wells and operations, the estimated quantity of crude oil that could be produced in one year from April 1, 1918.

In Congress, Representative Edward T. Taylor, of Colorado, has introduced a bill providing for the leasing of oil-shale lands along identical lines with the provisions relating to the same subject in the general leasing bill, which has been favorably reported by the Committee on Public Lands. The reason for the submission of such a bill is to insure legislation which will protect those who have entered upon the public domain in districts where there are oil shales.

Trial of the suit brought by Gregg, Whitehead & Co. et al. against R. C. Megargel & Co., members of the New York Stock Exchange, to recover stock in the Glenrock Oil Company, held by defendants as managers of an underwriting syndicate which bought 100,000 shares, and in which charges of fraud and misrepresentation were made, was concluded recently before Judge Mayer in the Federal Court for the Southern District of New York. A decision is expected soon.

According to the Dallas News, connections for the Prairie pipe line between Cushing and Ranger, Texas, are all ready to be made at the crossings over Canadian, Brazos and Red Rivers. This work has been done in advance of the pipe line and there will be no delay owing to water or other conditions when the pipe line gets to these rivers. The crossing over Red River is said to have been as difficult as that over the Mississippi, owing to shifting and unstable sands and changing currents.

Ross Southard, a young Kentuckian, formerly with the Standard Oil Company of California, visited Walters, Okla., in 1916, to rest. He is naturally an observant young man and he took notice of local indications. Southard leased some acreage and induced men of means to drill wells. Oil and gas were struck. The Walters field was placed upon the map. Southard is now a rich man and his prospects are gilt-edged. In a business way he is "well hooked up," as they say at Walters.

Missouri's Bureau of Geology and Mines has ready for distribution a report on the oil and gas possibilities of the Belton area. The report, issued in pamphlet form, covers an area of approximately 71 square miles, in southwest Jackson and northwest Cass counties. It contains a detailed structural map of the area showing the presence of several anticlines, and the text treats of the geology, previous exploration and possibilities of finding oil and gas within the region. Copies of this report will be sent upon request by addressing H. A. Biehler, State Geologist, Rolla, Mo. Enclose 10 cents with each request.

Indictments have been returned by a Federal grand jury at Spokane, Wash., against a number of men identified with the promotion of the Flathead Petroleum Company. Walter J. Nichols, one of the men indicted, has put up a bond for his appearance. It is said that W. E. Mann is also sought in connection with the same case. Names of others are not divulged. Fraudulent use of the mails is alleged. This company is said to have received \$200,000 from the sale of stocks in its first "drive." Half of that amount was derived from a second sale campaign. The company has 3,500 stockholders. The oil-producing part of the enterprise seems to have been a failure.—Oil and Gas Journal.

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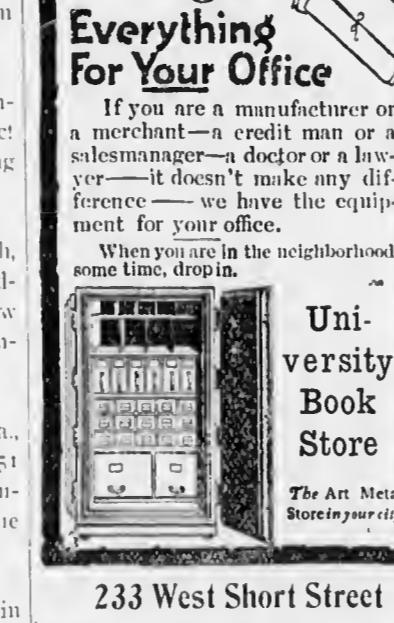
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PETROLEUM NEWS NOTES

The Crescent Oil Company, of Wilmington, Del., applied for a Delaware charter. It has a capital of \$250,000.

To prospect and explore for oil, etc., a charter was applied for by the Chilcat Oil Company, of Wilmington, Del., capital, \$8,000.

The Reino Products Company, of Wilmington, Del., applied for a charter at the State Department in Dover, Del., capital \$10,000.

The purchase of a 1/2 interest in four 2000 acre tracts in Cherokee county, Oklahoma, has been announced by the Global Oil Company.

The Canadian Oil Company, offices, Los Angeles, Calif., has made application at Jefferson, Los Angeles, Calif., for a lease, etc., for natural gas.

An increase in stock from \$1,000 to \$1,000,000 has been applied for by the Standard Oil Company of California, of Los Angeles, Calif., to the State Department at Dover, Del.

T. C. Towl, engineer for the C. C. and P. Co., has recently commissioned a lieutenant in the U. S. Navy to go to the Orient, where he will take up his work at once.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Standard Oil Company of California the regular quarterly dividend No. 8 of \$2 a share was declared and will be paid June 15, 1918, to stockholders of record May 15, 1918.

The Standard Oil Company of Indiana has transferred its oil interests from the Commonwealth-Lishon Company Building, 72 West Adams

THE OIL WORLD

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GUY BELL, Editor.

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Official Organ for the

KENTUCKY OIL MEN'S ASSOCIATION

Organized in the Interest of All Oil and Gas Operators in Kentucky
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E. E. LOOMIS, 1st Vice-Pres., Winchester; S. S. YANTIS, 2nd Vice-Pres., Lexington;
W. P. WILLIAMS, Treasurer, Irvine; C. D. PRATT, Secretary, Irvine.Address Correspondence to Chairman of Committee, According to Business
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Lucien Beckner, Winchester, Ky.

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Frank H. Hudson, Chairman, Lexington, Ky.

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C. B. DUNN, of the Dunn Oil Company.

Vol. 1, SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1918, No. 52.

THE WARING WORLD WANTS OIL

"We are as a single heart to the world its daily production strengthens the arm of
Democracy against the Powers of Vandalism and Oppression."

EDITORIAL

BLOSSOMS EACH SPRING.

That Jerry perennial, the rumor of approaching revolt in Austria-Hungary, has made another appearance. The danger in the circulation of such reports lies in the likelihood of some easy souls taking comfort therefrom and in consequence slackening some of their vigor in making sacrifices for the carrying on of the war. It is rather significant that the days immediately following the publication of this latest story of the threatened uprising of the Jungs-blays should have been marked by a noticeable falling off in Liberty Loan subscriptions. The only safe rule for American thought is to maintain that we shall win the war by the strength of our own right arm and not through any providential assistance from the people at large in the countries with which we are at war.

THE INDUSTRIAL CIRCLE.

It is a narrow circle in which all modern industrial transactions travel. If wages or materials or costs of distribution increase in a given line of manufacture, the price to the consumer must be increased proportionately. So it is with the railroads. An increase in wages of 20 per cent, as is proposed, means necessarily that fares and freights—which are the railroads' output—must be correspondingly increased. Under prevailing conditions this is inexorably inevitable. While the railroads were still under private management and when wages had to be increased for any reason whatsoever, it might still have been possible to deny to the roads a commensurate increase in rates and compel them to meet the additional cost in operation at the expense of needed equipment or other curtailment in vital matters. In fact, this is substantially what did happen. But now the Government is operating the railroads and the Government has guaranteed to the stockholders a return upon their investment. In consequence, if the cost of operation is increased under Government control, the Government must find the money—and the money can be found only by taxation or by an increase in rates. It is the people who foot the bills in any event.

CONTRIBUTIONS CERTAINTED.

The person who gives to the Red Cross can be certain that his money will be well spent under the efficient administration of Henry P. Davison. There will not be any scandals throwing their stench over the country, and every dollar will be wisely used and promptly accounted for. The Red Cross is not in the business of covering up its expenditures. Its books are open to the scrutiny of every man who is curious to know what is being done, and the organization is not buying political favor with money subscribed for war purposes by the overburdened people of the United States.

Mother, the subscription which you give the Red Cross may supply the very surgical necessities which make whole your wounded son. If he were lying sick or wounded in the little bed into which you had tucked him, and where you could smooth his pillow, would you count the cost of restoring him to health? To others has that task been assigned near the blood-soaked fields of France, and the money you give for this cause will yield its sustaining influences around his far-away cot.

THE SEVEN OIL FIELDS OF THE WORLD.

The recent intimation from Washington that our Government might feel constrained to take possession, for the duration of the war, of the great Tampico oil fields of Mexico was an unpleasant reminder of the unsatisfactory character of our Mexican relations.

In January of last year the Mexican government, which is suspiciously friendly to Germany, adopted a new constitution, containing three very significant and ominous provisions. One is that all oil wells are the inalienable property of the government. That, of course, means retroactive confiscation of all existing oil plants of American, British or other ownership. The second provision is that there shall be "no exemp-

tion from taxation." That means that even if concessions are granted to work the oil wells there may be placed upon the products an export tax amounting to an embargo. Finally, it is provided in this extraordinary constitution that "strikes shall be considered unlawful only when the majority of the strikers shall resort to acts of violence against persons or property." Obviously that means that a strike is not unlawful when only a minority of the strikers are committing sabotage or vandalism, such as destroying oil wells and burning storage tanks.

Undoubtedly Mexico is entitled to frame and adopt her own constitution, within certain limits. When she essays to put into force a constitution, however, which violates international law, which grossly infringes upon the property rights of American citizens, and which may make of international comity the veriest "scrap of paper"—well, it would be unpleasant to have to intervene with force.

It is not necessary, of course, to emphasize or to explain the necessity of oil, both as kerosene and as gasoline, as a war supply. It is as essential as gunpowder. Much to the point, however, are the sources and amounts of the supply. There are seven important oil fields in the world. One is in the Dutch East Indies and Burmah, which is too far away to serve us, especially in the present lack of steamers. Another is in Persia; also remote and small. The third is in Russia, now controlled, of course, by Germany. The fourth, in Roumania, is likewise subject to German control. The fifth is in Galicia, and therefore in Austrian hands.

The sixth is our own great group of fields in the United States, enormously rich as it is, it is quite inadequate to our needs and those of our allies. Last year our production fell short of our consumption for purely peace purposes by about 64,000,000 barrels, and the additional shortage for war purposes was estimated at 20,000,000 barrels more. This year, with our proposed construction of a great fleet of airplanes, the demand will be greatly increased. It is estimated that the shortage in 1918, for all purposes, will be approximately 133,000,000 barrels. So much for the only practically available fields within our own control.

The seventh field is that of Mexico, which is perhaps the richest in the world.—Boston Transcript.

GRAYSON COUNTY DEVELOPMENT.

(By John A. George)

LEITCHFIELD, Ky., May 24.—While recent development in Grayson county have not been as satisfactory as might be desired, at the same time it has not discouraged the operator in his effort to find oil, as the amount of new work now starting and in preparation will readily prove.

A number of large companies and individuals who have holdings in the county are still very optimistic over the prospects of finding oil and are preparing to test out their holdings during the coming summer, and it remains to be seen whether or not their optimism is justified.

It has been nearly two years since we wrote our first publicity article on the possibilities of Grayson county as an oil producing county. At that time there was not a well drilling within fifty miles of the county. In those early reports we repeatedly made the statement that Grayson county was capable of producing oil and gas in

paying quantities, and we are glad to say at this time our early predictions have been verified, by the finding of both oil and gas. While only in limited quantities thus far, the value of the find lies in the fact that it has proven our theory that the formations capable of producing oil and gas were here and at the same time has served to attract practical operators and geologists to this section from all over the country, until at present it is looked upon as the most favorable county in the western part of the state, and is also the most active in development work, as the following report will prove.

The latest completion in the county was that just recently drilled by C. H. Dooly, of Rock Island, Mo., on the Dunn farm, about one mile northwest of town. This well finished in the coriferous lime at 1,505 feet, a pay streak 10 feet in thickness was found at 1,495, which showed considerable oil, but not sufficient to operate. The Majors sand, or the sand in which Carl K. Dresser found oil on the Majors farm, was found in the Dunn well at 740 feet and showed 40 feet in

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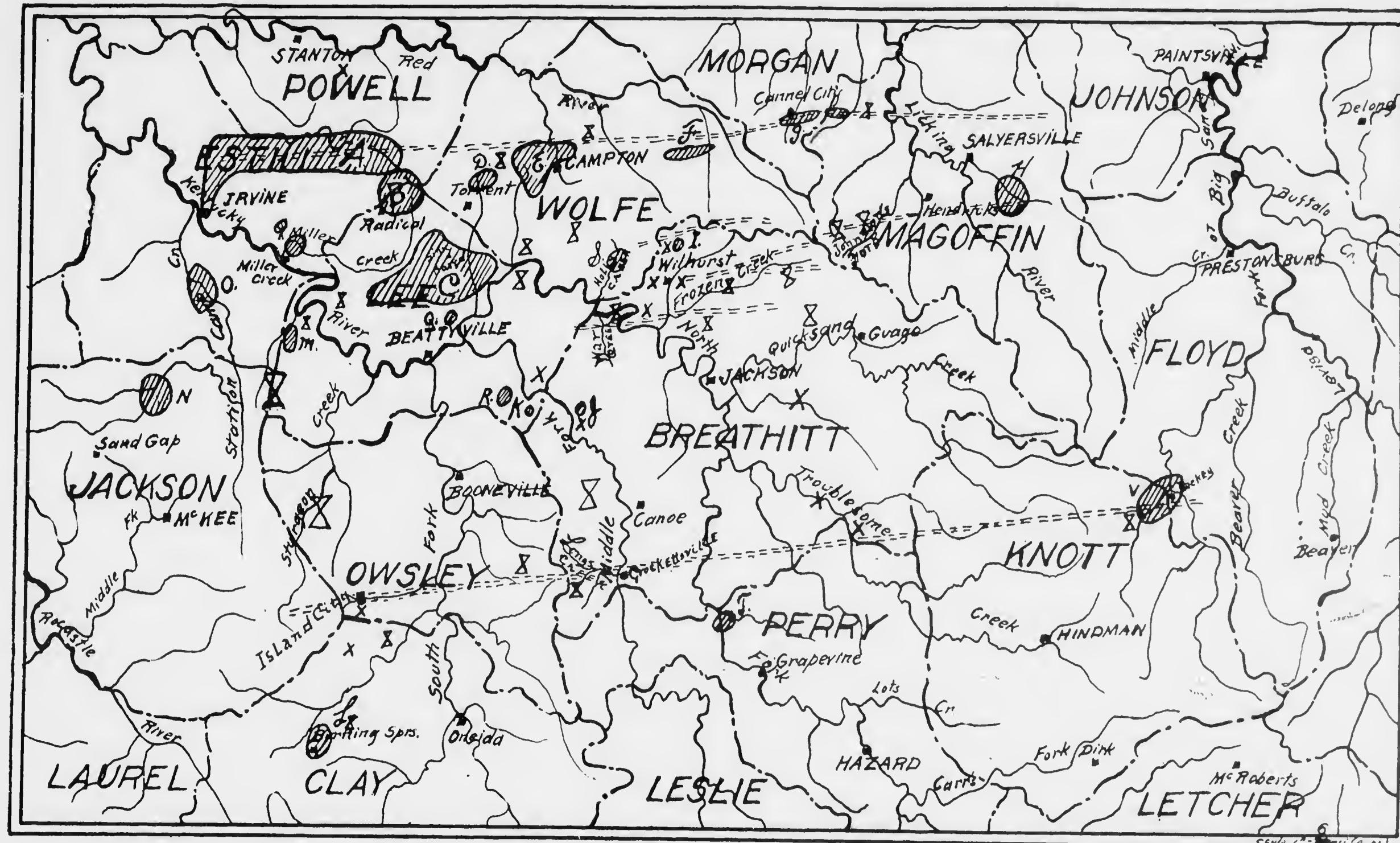
- Established Company Beyond Experimental Stage.
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- Stock has been subscribed in large blocks by discriminating investors.

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B—Jack Wells, Prewitt, Miller, etc.
C—Lee County field.
D—Hobbs Farm district.
E—Campton field.

F—Stillwater Pool.
G—Cannel City Pool.
H—Burning Fork Pool.
I—Old Shuckford Well.
J—Cope's Branch Well.

K—Lineman's Branch Well.
L—Duff's Development—gas.
M—Ross Creek Development.
N—Jackson County Development.
O—Station Camp Pool.

P—Miller's Creek.
Q—Liles' Well.
R—Old Tallega Development.
S—Holly Creek—gas.
V—Small production at Lackey.

T—Gas.
—Indicates approximate locations of wells now drilling, and contracted to be drilled.

—Indicates probable location of new work.

(Note: The above outline and the following story are reproduced from THE OIL WORLD of March 9, by request.)

Outside the usual number of wells drilled and contracted for in the Lee, Estill and Powell county fields, the greatest interest among both operators and speculators seems to center in Eastern Lee, Southern Wolfe, Breathitt, Magoffin and Knott counties along the course of probable extensions of present productive territory and in the testing of more or less well-defined, favorable, geological structure in unproven areas in these eastern counties.

We have undertaken to furnish in the accompanying plat the locations of the districts where these developments are now in process and to indicate the new sections which appear most likely to attract development during the present year.

Including Owsley and Jackson counties and the northern part of Clay county, which are apparently in line for further extensive drilling tests during the year, this territory may be said, in a general way, to embrace an area thirty miles wide (north and south), by forty-five miles long (east and west).

In Owsley county a well has been brought in one and one-half miles northeast of Ernestville, in which the oil is reported to have risen 581 feet in the hole before being shot. Mr. Gordon Sinclair is the owner of this property. Manager Hall, in charge of the development for Mr. Sinclair, is said to contemplate additional drilling on the Sinclair leases. In the same county another well is expected this week, three miles east of Booneville, Ohio. Cities interests are reported to have contracted to drill fifteen wells on the Turkey Foot Lumber Company property, which comprises an area of forty-five thousand acres in Jackson, Owsley and Lee counties. Much of this tract lies in southwestern Lee county and extends to within a few miles of the Kentucky river. The Bangor Land Company is said to have contracted for the drilling of ten wells on its fifteen thousand acres, lying principally in western Owsley.

As illustrating the difficulty in securing definite and up-to-date information, one company, evidently strong financially and proceeding upon definite knowledge satisfactory to its owners, is undertaking an extensive drilling campaign out on Troublesome creek in the southwestern portion of Breathitt county, and, notwithstanding these operations have been in progress several months, little definite information seems to be available considering these activities. Its operations may be based upon surveys of the structure developed at Lackey, in Floyd county; and which is said to persist in a general course across southern Breathitt county and southern Owsley and to be prominent near Island City, where the Buchanan well has been drilling.

A particular interest seems to be displayed in northern Breathitt, where a

number of domes or series of domes, some very pronounced, are said to exist over a large area. Some of these may be entirely local, but the general opinion seems to be that they are related directly to each other and comprise an important geological structure traversing the northern portion of the county, carrying here and there local domes and synclines and with dislocations and interruptions peculiar to the Irvine-Campbell Anticline, and in fact all Appalachian oil-bearing structures.

The result of the Stevenson drilling near Jackson seems to confirm the frequently stated opinion of geologists that a synclinal area exists in the central portion of the county, but so far as can be learned no geological work has been done to define the area it embraces.

The Stevenson development, probably on the northern edge of the syncline, disclosed regular conditions of the strata and the Irvine sand to have a thickness of over one hundred feet, and although Mr. Stevenson's work rewarded him only with a show of oil and gas, it becomes of the greatest possible value as indicating what may be found in more favorable geological locations at the same depth in Breathitt county.

To an extent, it confirms also the theory drawn from experience in the Irvine field, that the Irvine sand increases in thickness the further it is found from the outcrop. So far as can be learned, no well has yet been drilled to the Irvine sand on favorable geological structure in Breathitt county, and therefore the northern portion of the county is held to be particularly favorable geologically. The many tests to be drilled in this portion of the county has excited the greatest possible interest in these developments.

The Fulton interests now have a rig and material on the ground and are beginning a test on their acreage near Vancleave (postoffice Calla), on Frozen creek, in this county, and have located also two additional wells which will be put under way as soon as the equipment can be gotten on the ground. The second location is on Johnson's fork, near Paxton, and the third location is a short distance southeast of the second location.

The Stevenson Company is now drilling on No. 3 and is said to contemplate additional drilling on its property lying on the eastern branches of Quicksand. A number of wells are planned to be drilled in the War Creek district, and the Preston Oil Company is reported to be planning extensive tests of its territory, some of which extends almost to the Magoffin county line in the northeastern part of the county.

Another district in Breathitt which is favorably regarded is that lying along the middle fork of the Kentucky river from Cope's branch south to Crockettsville. Several tests are contemplated here, and one well is said to have been con-

tracted for this week.

While the drilling around Finecastle in an effort to extend the S. M. Board (Lee county) field has been somewhat disappointing, much interest has developed in the western and southern portions of the county and particularly in the eastern portion of the county, where geological conditions are believed to be more promising.

Another district likely to be thoroughly tested during the year is that along the Johnson's Ford Anticline, which has been definitely established. It is conjectured to traverse the Johnson's fork and Cow creek waters, east of the small postoffice in Magoffin county, for a distance of more than seven miles, running throughout and attaining a width of about two and one-half miles, and it crosses Johnson's fork.

Although the Gypsy Oil Company drilled a dry hole a year ago, a second well, in the syncline on the State road a short distance west of Newell, has been drilled as yet on the Johnson's fork anticline. Almost as soon as the structure was discovered and surveyed, strong interests acquired practically all the acreage on it, and at least one of these lessors is preparing to drill.

The L. G. Neely interests, who have made large profits out of their development and sale of Kentucky oil properties, are reported to have acquired some favorable territory on Beaver creek in Knott county, where they intend developing this spring. At one time they are said to have held a large acreage in Breathitt county, but practically all this was included in the sale of Mr. Irvine field production in the Empire Oil and Gas Company in the summer of 1917.

Of the fifty-two wells now drilling in Wolfe and Lee counties, probably one-third are drilling in unproven or "wildcat" districts. Some of course will be failures, but others will result in extending the productive territory of their respective fields.

According to latest reports, eighteen wells are now drilling in new territory in southwest and southern Lee, Breathitt, Clay, Owsley, Magoffin and Knott counties, with a large number reported under contract and in prospect, and from present indications, unless the supplies of equipment and machinery fail, we estimate that in these counties and along the Breathitt county line in Lee and Wolfe, at least one hundred wells will be drilled before the end of the year 1918. This is conceded to be one of the greatest movements ever undertaken to extend producing territory and to test unproved fields.

Mr. Requa, you have asked for energetic effort and greater production! This is Kentucky's response, and will you not see that we get the machinery, material and supplies to do the work?

thickness.

Among the wells now drilling is one just started by McNutt and Liles, near Olaton, along the Ohio-Grayson county line. Considerable difficulty has been encountered at the beginning of this well.

The Pluto Oil & Gas Company will drill four wells in Grayson county this summer, on leases held by the Kentucky Oil and Refining Company and the Grayson Oil and Gas Company. Five of these wells will be drilled west of Leitchfield, in the Short Creek District. The other two will be drilled east of town, about five or six miles in the vicinity of Grayson Springs. Machinery for the first well, which will be drilled on the Young farm, has just been unloaded at Caneyville, a small station on the I. C. R. R., a short distance west of Leitchfield. J. G. White, of Winchets, Ky., is sponsor for this company and has been very active in promoting development in Grayson county.

Pringle Brothers will start drilling a test well not later than June 1st on the Cook Bros. farm, one mile north of Millwood Station.

The Southwestern Oil & Gas Company, of Lexington, who took over about 42,000 acres of leases from the Kentucky Rock Asphalt Co. about a year ago, has let contracts for drilling six wells. These holdings are situated in Grayson, Hart, Edmonson and Hardin counties.

We understand the first of these wells will be drilled in Grayson county, near Peonia Post Office, about eight miles southeast of Leitchfield.

The Hudson Ridge Oil and Gas Company has let contracts for two wells southwest of town near Ready and Stamp Post Offices. This is another new company to enter Grayson county.

Also G. M. Wykoff, of Johnsonburg, Pa., has shipped a rig to Leitchfield under contract to drill two wells west of town.

The Associated Producers are shut down at their well near Short Creek, at a depth of 1,000 feet, waiting on drilling cable. Carl K.

Dresser is also shut down with tools in the hole waiting on finishing tools, at his No. 1 on the Major farm.

The same party has quite a lot of machinery and supplies unloaded at the local freight yards and we are informed has made arrangements to drill ten more wells on his holdings in the vicinity of the Major wells.

The Kentucky Oil and Refining Company are moving its machinery to a location south of town for the purpose of testing out that section for gas. This company has a two and half million-foot gas well just southwest of town, and has a franchise to pipe the town of Leitchfield, but its intentions are to drill a number of wells on its holdings south of town to define the limits of the gas area before piping the town.

Another new company to enter this territory is the Wyoming-Kentucky-Eastern Oil & Gas Company, from Casper, Wyoming, who has just completed a survey of its holdings north of town and will start drilling operations soon.

Summing up the situation as a whole, the outlook for Grayson county is very encouraging, and it can be reliably stated that at least twenty wells will be drilled in the county this summer, let results come what may, and perhaps many more.

Going outside of Grayson county, Carl K. Dresser is drilling near Solway, Hardin county, and another near Dundee, Ohio county. Both of these wells are in adjoining counties to Grayson and are supposed to be located on the Ohio-Grayson county anticline which is known to extend from Hardin county on the east to Union county on the west.

The Braden Oil and Gas Company has recently drilled a well on this same structure, near Morganfield, Union county, which showed for twenty barrels natural at 1,800 feet and after being shot is reported

good for 50 barrels. While these figures are perhaps too high, the fact remains that it is a well and shows an extension of several miles west to the Ohio-Grayson anticline.

The Grayson Oil & Gas Company has just completed another good gas well near Campbellsville, Taylor county, which is the seventh gas well for this company in Taylor and Green counties.

The geological formations here are practically the same as those in the eastern part of the state. The Devonian shale extends from the outcrop in the Ohio river near Louisville, southwest across the entire state, and just beneath the shale is found the coniferous lime, separated from it by the usual streak of fire clay from eight to fifteen feet thick. The shale is found in various depths, according to the distance from where it crops out. Here in Grayson county it is found from 1,000 to 1,350 feet, and is generally uniform in thickness of about 100 feet. The lime also is very regular in this section and ranges from 100 to 125 feet.

The topography of the country here and in other counties in the western part of the state, is much better than in counties where oil is being found in the eastern part of the state. The surface of the land here, while not possessing the fertility of the limestone soil, resembles that of Clark county. The country districts are thickly populated with prosperous farmers and the roads are fairly good. Railroad facilities are good and moving expenses would be much less than in the eastern counties; that in comparison, this section is not only less expensive, but a much more desirable country in which to operate. Geologists claim to have located the largest anticline in the state, extending across the counties of this section which includes Hardin, Breckinridge, Grayson, Ohio, McLean, Webster and Union counties. Active work is now starting in all these counties which should test out this theory within the next few months.

**OIL LAND LEASING BILL TO BE PASSED AT ONCE.
COMMANDERING CLAUSE DEAD.**

WASHINGTON.—As a result of a conference between Chairman Ferris, of the House Committee on Public Lands, with President Wilson, at the White House, the commanding section of the oil land leasing bill was eliminated before the report on this measure was submitted to Congress this week.

The section eliminated authorized the President to take over any or all oil interests engaged in prospecting on public domain whenever public interest required.

This commanding section was put in on the suggestion of the United States Fuel Administration. The Government officials representing the views of the Administration felt that such commanding authority was not necessary, as the President now has ample authority under the Lever Bill to commandeer the oil properties for war purposes. The Fuel Administration wanted to make the authority more definite.

Under a special rule which has been assured it is expected that the leasing bill will be taken up early next week and promptly passed to meet the emergency that exists on the Pacific coast to provide increased quantities of fuel oil for the essential industries.

Very great interest is being taken in the provisions of the general leasing bill as regards development of shale oil lands.

Oil Shale Development.

Provision is made for the leasing and development of deposits of oil shale belonging to the United States. From evidence submitted at the hearing it appears that the known oil shale deposits of the United States aggregate something like 15,000 square miles in Colorado, Utah and Wyoming. There are also areas of oil shale known in Nevada, California, Arizona and Oregon.

Oil is not extracted from shale through wells, but the shale must be mined like coal, and subjected to a process of distillation, producing ultimate crude oil, with sulphate of ammonia and paraffin as by-products. It is estimated that the production of oil from the better class of shales will approximate 47 gallons of crude oil to the ton.

The mining and manufacture of oil and other products from these shales is somewhat analogous to the mining and reduction of low-grade ores. It can be accomplished only through the adoption of expensive and complicated manufacturing processes and by handling the shales in large quantities. It is estimated that a complete plant having a capacity of 1,000 tons of shale per day will cost from \$2,000,000 to \$2,500,000.

Oil has been produced from other shales for many years in Scotland and other places in Europe and some production is being had in Canada, where, while a small royalty is exacted from the developer, a bonus is paid by the Government of 2½ cents per gallon of crude oil.

Taking Out Lands.

The House Public Lands Committee regards the oil shale deposits as a valuable Government asset and susceptible under proper encouragement of producing vast quantities of crude oil and its by-products, but only through liberal treatment and through a somewhat different method than that employed in the extraction of oil from wells.

The section, therefore, authorizes the leasing of the oil shale deposit in areas not exceeding 5,120 acres of land, upon such royalties as may be specified in the leases, with the right in the Secretary of the Interior to waive the payment of any royalty and rental during the first five years to any lease, the royalties to be subject to readjustment at the end of each twenty-year period.

There are reported to be numerous locations upon these lands under the general placer mining laws and provision has been made that any person laying a valid location of such minerals prior to January 1, 1918, may, upon

relinquishing his claim, be entitled to a lease under the provisions of the section.

What the Leasing Bill Specifies as to Development.

After a conference at the White House between Chairman Ferris of the House Committee on Public Lands and the President, the Public Lands Committee eliminated the commanding section of the oil land leasing bill and authorized a favorable report on the measure as amended.

The measure has been before the House for about five years, and on two separate occasions the House has passed the legislation proposed without dissenting voice, after full and free discussion of every paragraph of the measure. The new bill—which has been epitomized in the Reporter several times—follows very closely the provisions of House bill 3232, now on the calendar, which was identical with House bill 16,136 of the Sixty-third Congress, second session.

Substitutes a Leasing System.

The bill is intended to supplant the existing patenting of oil lands and other valuable mineral lands, and substitutes therefor a system of leasing controlled by the Federal Government. The bill also affords a means of leasing on a royalty basis the deposit of mineral fuels and mineral fertilizers, and the "public utility" minerals in the public lands of the United States, and, exclusive of coal, applies equally to the public lands of Alaska. The scope of the measure is indicated by the fact that there are approximately 700,000,000 acres of such lands available, 3,000,000 acres of which are in the United States and 370,000,000 acres in Alaska.

In taking up the bill by sections it will be seen that the first eight sections of the measure deal with coal, there being from 35,000,000 to 40,000,000 acres of such lands, with an estimated tonnage of fuel of 90,000,000 tons of bituminous, sub-bituminous and lignite coal in the public lands. Under the bill a rental is provided to insure development as well as a minimum royalty of 2 cents a ton.

As to Oil and Gas.

Sections 9 to 15 of the bill deal with deposits of oil and gas, and substitutes the taking up of 160-acre tracts, an intelligent leasing law under Government supervision. Under the bill prospector's permit good for two years may be issued by the Secretary of the Interior, conditioned on development and actual drilling, and should such prospector discover oil or gas he is entitled to a lease of one-fourth the area covered by his permit at a fixed royalty of one-eighth, as well as to a preference right for further lease of the remainder of the land, at a fixed royalty, and subject to other definite regulations.

This is thought to be ample reward for the prospectors, while at the same time turning back to the Government three-fourths of the known oil land, making definite the assurance that the Government will not be left destitute of required oil.

Relief for Oil Claimants.

One of the most vital sections of the bill from the point of view of the petroleum industry is the relief provision relating to oil claimants who had partially developed lands at the time of the executive withdrawal order which lands in large measure have been in litigation since that time. The withdrawal action was taken by President Taft in September, 1909, and there was a general expression that the President had gone beyond his powers in effecting such withdrawals. The matter was taken to the courts and to the Supreme Court of the United States, with the result that the highest tribunal upheld the withdrawals and declared that sufficient power was vested in the President to act as he had done. For the past five years there have been continual appeals to Congress for relief, but the claims of the Departments of the Interior, Navy and Justice have so complicated the situation that it was deemed advisable to insert a section in the new bill covering this phase of the land situation. The result of the combined efforts of the three departments named, and of the Committee on Public Lands, is the following specific proviso under section 12 of the bill, which reads as follows:

"Provided, That any claimant who, either in person or through his predecessor in interest, entered upon any of the lands embraced within the Executive order of withdrawal dated September 27, 1909, prior to January 3, 1910, for the

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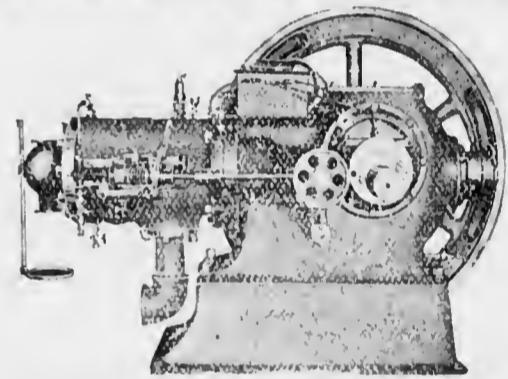
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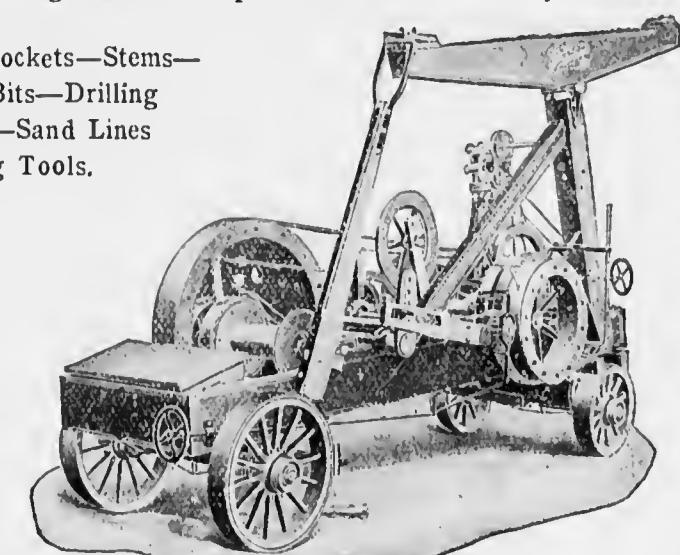
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purpose of prospecting for oil or gas, and thereupon commenced development work thereon, and thereafter prosecuted such work to a discovery of oil or gas shall be entitled to lease from the United States the producing oil or gas well or wells resulting from such work at a royalty of not less than one-eighth of all the oil and gas produced and saved therefrom, together with an area of land sufficient for operation thereof, but without the right to drill any other or additional wells thereon except as may be authorized by the President, and no wells shall be drilled on lands subject to the terms of this act within 600 feet of any such leased well, without the consent of the lessee thereof. Provided further, That where the President shall determine that it is to the public interest, he may lease the remainder of any such claim to the claimant, upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe. And provided further, That all such claimants shall pay, in such manner as the President may determine, to the United States an amount equal to not less than the value when produced of one-eighth of all the oil and gas already produced and saved from such well or wells. And provided further, That no claimant whose well or wells may be involved in any suit brought by the United States or in any application for patent shall be entitled to a lease under this proviso unless within six months after approval of this act he shall relinquish to the United States all rights claimable by him in such suit or application unless the President shall further extend such time. No person who has been guilty of any fraud, or who had knowledge or reasonable grounds to know of any fraud, or who has not acted honestly and in good faith, shall be entitled to a lease under the provisions of this act."

Oil Shale Lands.

Provision is made in section 15 for the development and leasing of some thing like 15,000 square miles of shale oil deposits in Colorado, Utah and Wyoming, as well as similar deposits in Nevada, California, Arizona and Oregon. The section authorizes the leasing of such lands in areas not exceeding 5,120 acres, upon royalties to be specified in the leases, with the right vested in the Secretary of the Interior to waive the payment of any royalty and rental during the first five years of any lease, the royalties to be subject to readjustment at the end of each twenty-year period.

Under section 13 the President was given power to commandeer oil lands subject to existing claims or within withdrawn or reserved territory, but this section has been killed in committee.

Oil in Alaska.

Special consideration is given the Alaskan oil land claimants under section 20, some of the reasons for the special treatment being named as follows:

- (a) Distance of the fields from commercial centers.
- (b) Time required in the shipment of necessary materials.
- (c) Difficulties in the transportation of materials by land in the oil fields.
- (d) The short season in which work can be done.
- (e) Scarcity of needed materials on ground.
- (f) Rapid decay and destruction of materials during long non-use.
- (g) High cost of labor and maintenance in these fields.
- (h) Absence of housing quarters for employees.
- (i) Unusual difficulties encountered in drilling.
- (j) Small production of individual wells.
- (k) Great distances between the oil areas.

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(1) Difficulties and cost of transportation of oil products.

(m) Difficulties in storing and refining oil products.

(n) The present scarcity and high price of fuel.

(o) Shipping necessary to transport needed fuel to Alaska.

(p) Taking of oil from the California and other United States fields to Alaska for fuel.

(q) Encouragement to the mining interests in inuring fuel for mining and milling ore.

(r) Local fuel for Alaska industries.

(s) Continued production of the necessary supply of Alaska oil.

(t) Recognition of present claimants, especially those in the oil fields, will encourage development of the hydrocarbons. They will be entitled to old lands."

The evidence shows some sixty claims on the oil fields of Alaska, located long prior to any war-hazard order. The oil fields of Alaska and its successors have in good faith held and worked in the oil fields and have expended the cost in the order of approximately \$100,000,000.

No discovery of oil in oil fields has been made since the war-hazard order by reason of faults and folds in the rock, or lack of oil in the oil fields. The springs or seepages of live oil and gas, however, are numerous. The evidence shows, as a positive visual production of oil in the oil fields, instances to measurable quantities in short distances from the oil fields, and their asences, have in good faith relied on the oil fields as the oil fields are sufficient, with the improvements made, and work performed, to justify the oil fields. These seepages have been used by the oil fields in the oil fields well drilled at or in relation to a seepage has proved to be oil.

The testimony and Government papers show that the oil fields, although large in area, are much broken and faulted, and are separated by many separate pools or reservoirs, possibly due to the nature of the same general field. The probable extent of these fields is approximately one million acres, with the possibility that even larger areas may be found if prospecting is reasonably encouraged. These fields are so large that it is necessary a larger number of tracts in order to justify the oil fields, and average the incident risks.

Drilling processes are slow, costly and expensive, and the cost is averaging about five barrels a day.

The testimony demonstrated that immediate development is necessary to continue and protect the production of oil, coal and timber are dependent upon local oil production.

From these existing and partially developed claims oil fields, the requirements of the Alaskan fisheries and mines must come. A large number of cans of Alaska salmon needed at the fishing front are claimed as dependent on this supply of oil. Early treatment and immediate action are necessary to encourage immediate development for a supply of oil to the fisheries, and the pioneers in the field should have a larger area and more time than those in more regulated, accessible and uniform fields, where oil fields are far more favorable. The advantages given are essential to quick development to meet the emergency and the present Alaskan requirements.

A similar proviso has recently passed the Senate, and the House has recognized the conditions peculiar to Alaska in preparing consideration of this measure.

For these and other reasons that space forbids the citizen who submitted recognizes the validity of these claims and has attempted to give them full treatment to the Alaska claimants. Under the conditions briefly reviewed, and as established at the hearing, it is our unanimous conclusion that any Alaskan who can measure up to the requirements of this section is entitled to the benefits of its provisions. Its beneficial effect and its simplicity is such that the claimants who have discovered and opened up a virgin resource can immediately determine their present status, and, if within its provisions, may safely and rapidly proceed to meet the present emergency.

Phosphate Lands.

Sections 16 to 18 of the bill have to do with phosphate lands. All phosphate lands have been withdrawn as phosphate lands, some of this area has been restored since, so that today it amounts to approximately 287,000 acres. It is shown that there are at least 20,000,000,000 tons of phosphate in the phosphate lands in public lands.

"REFINERY MAGNATES" ARE ATTRACTED BY NORTON WHO TRIES TO ARRANGE HEARINGS

WASHINGTON, May 24.—Representative Norton, of Oklahoma, is endeavoring to arrange hearings before the House Committee on Agriculture on his bill introduced more than a year ago to prohibit the use of gasoline.

Representative Norton says he has the testimony of oil refinery magnates that they believe the price of gasoline is too high and is too high to support his bill. He expects to appear before the committee on June 1, at which time all branches of the trade, from producer to consumer, will be represented.

Representative Norton says he has the testimony of oil refinery magnates that they believe the price of gasoline is too high and is too high to support his bill. The great cry at this time is that the oil companies are opening up new oil territory. This is not really true, but the production is increased in the territory already being developed. The oil companies are controlling the already proven fields and disposed of them to the oil companies of the nation.

"The real purpose behind this demand for legislation is to prevent the opening up of new lands is so that the oil refinery magnates can have control of these additional lands at this time in an easy manner."

SAVING FUEL OIL; REQUA HAVING SURVEY MADE WITH VIEW TO COAL SUBSTITUTION

WASHINGTON, May 24.—To effect a big conservation of fuel oil, it is imperatively needed to cut down the growing shortage of oil for the industries on the Pacific coast, coal is to be substituted for fuel oil in the Pacific Northwest, in such States as Oregon, Washington and British Columbia.

Mark L. Requa, the Federal fuel oil administrator, is having a survey made to see how much oil can be saved in this way. This is one of the ways in which the Government war-work authorities are endeavoring to decrease the oil drain on the fuel oil supply of the Pacific coast, which is being diminished at an alarming rate.

Drastic efforts are to be taken to prevent actual stoppage of essential oil industries before an increased supply can be had under the general leasing plan, which is going to be rushed through Congress.

LINCOLN COUNTY.

Alex. T. Wilson, of Lexington, Ky., is moving his drilling rig from Rock castle county to Lincoln county, where he is going to put down several test wells for himself in the Oteenheim district, where he has several leases.

Mr. Wilson thinks Lincoln county is the most promising shallow field in the State, as the Irvine sand is encountered at a depth of 250 feet, and there are now several good producers on Buck Creek in the Irvine sand.

The wells have been reported small by a company that has most of the county leased and has six producers, the last one of which flowed and was then reported as "better than ten barrels."

Even the city authorities in some parts of the oil fields of Kentucky are taking an active part in the development, as shown by the following report from Stanford, Ky.:

"Mayor A. B. Florence came in from the oil fields with his hat and coat covered with mud the other day. Asked what was the matter, he said that he had struck a 'gas gusher,' and that he has been almost blown away. Gas shot into the air over 100 feet, he says, while rocks and dirt blew nearly as high. He had to quit drilling a whole day, that the gas might get out of his way. He was down about 200 feet when he struck gas."

